

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.Preliminary Report by the Government Statist on the Estimated Wool
Production, 1929-30.

I. NUMBER OF SHEEP. Statistics are now being collected as to the strength of flocks as at December 31st 1929 but pending the results of the actual count and in order to meet the demands of those interested for early particulars of the Wool Industry, the Government Statist has made an estimate of the numbers based on fairly reliable details of lambing, slaughtering and interstate movement of sheep during the year. He estimates that there were in the State on or about December 31st, 1929, 6,200,000, a decrease of 900,000. This estimate is arrived at as follows:-

Actual Count, December 1928	7,079,947
Lambs marked year 1929 (Preliminary)	1,230,000
Net Imports, year 1929.	294,643
	<hr/> 8,604,590

LESS

Slaughterings Year 1929 (partly estimated)	1,225,000	
Mortality Losses 1929 Estimated	<u>1,200,000</u>	
		<hr/> 2,425,000

ESTIMATED TOTAL SHEEP AT DECEMBER 31ST, 1929 6,179,590SAY 6,200,000II. WOOL-CLIP.

	<u>Estimated</u> <u>1929-30</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>1928-29</u>
Sheep and Lambs Shorn	6,450,000	7,247,099
Wool-Clip in grease including crutchings (Sheep and Lambs) lbs.	54,000,000	63,729,419
Average weight fleece (Sheep and Lambs)	8.37	8.79

The previous year the State's Wool-Clip (1928-29) yielded from 7,247,099 sheep and lambs 63,729,419 lbs. averaging 8.79 lbs. The clip for 1929-30 now being marketed is estimated to yield 54,000,000 lbs. a decrease in the grease of 9,729,419 lbs. Less sheep were shorn and the weight of fleece weighed .42 lbs. less than the previous year.

III. INTERSTATE MOVEMENT OF WOOL. Considerable quantities of Wool from New South Wales, Victoria and some from Western Australia are sent to Adelaide for sale and shipment and a good quantity of the South-Eastern clip is sent from this State to Victoria for sale and shipment. A monthly record is kept of this Interstate Trade and from these details the Net Imports for the season are estimated at 3,100,000 lbs. in the grease.

IV. GRAND TOTAL WOOL-CLIP FOR SALE AND SHIPMENT. Adding the net Interstate Imports, 3,100,000 lbs. to the Wool-clip of the State 54,000,000 lbs., a grand total of 57,100,000 lbs. in the grease is estimated as available for Adelaide sales and ultimate shipment or local use. The details may be set forth as follows:-

SEASON 1929-30.

	lbs.	
Estimated State Wool-Clip in the Grease	54,000,000	53 000 000
Imported from States	10,700,000	11 000 000
Total	64,700,000	64 000 000
Less Exports to States	7,600,000	10 000 000
Grand Total Available Adelaide	57,100,000	54 000 000
Approximate Bales	182,000	167 000

V. OVERSEA EXPORTS. The seasonal Exports (July 1929 to February 1930) of Wool to Oversea Countries was equivalent to 40,478,139 lbs. in grease, the value for greasy and scoured combined being entered as £1,567,506. The average per lb. greasy was 9.55d. per lb. for the eight months against 14.97d. per lb. for the previous season. From this it appears that the results of the sales in Adelaide to date are averaging 36% less than the previous season and 45% less than 1927-28 (17.36d. per lb.).

VI. CONCLUSION. As nearly 60% of the estimated available wool has now been sold in Adelaide, it is possible to make a reasonable estimate of the probable value of the whole S.A. Clip. It is estimated that the total clip of 54,000,000 lbs. in the grease will realise approximately £2,140,000 or £1,830,000 less than the clip for the previous year. In addition to this the wool on sheepskins exported and fellmongered must be taken into account. Last season this was estimated at £680,000 making a grand total value of £4,654,172 for 1928-29. £440,000 should be a safe estimate on this account for 1929-30. This gives an estimated total for the season 1929-30 of £2,580,000 against £4,654,172 for the season 1928-29 as the value of wool clip, wool on skins, and fellmongered, a decrease of £2,074,172, and £3,088,757 less than the value of £5,668,757 for 1927-28. The total value for 1928-29 was £4,654,172 and 1927-28 £5,668,757.

VII. SUMMARY OF STATE'S WOOL PRODUCTION IN THE GREASE.

Season ended June 30th	Aver. weight fleece lbs.	Wool Production and Value				Average per lb. greasy.
		Shorn and Crutchings	On skins and Fellmongered	Grand Total	Estimated Value	
		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	£	d.
1925	8.80	55,642,383	6,796,570	62,438,953	5,975,928	22.97
1926	8.73	60,380,584	8,626,682	69,007,266	4,295,702	14.94
1927	8.67	63,078,242	9,286,958	72,365,200	4,468,551	14.82
1928	8.66	67,570,937	10,798,981	78,369,918	5,668,757	17.36
1929	8.79	63,729,419	10,886,585	74,616,004	4,654,172	14.97
1930	8.37	54,000,000	11,000,000	65,000,000	2,580,000	9.55

x 1929-30 is estimated, subject to final revision.

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GOVERNMENT STATIST & C.